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It our friends who favor us with manuscripts for must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

No Backward Step : From President Roosevelt's annual message of 1903.

Whenever either corporation, labor union or individual disregards the law or acts in a spirit of arbitrary and tyrannous interference with the rights of others, whether corporations or individuals, then where the Federal Government has jurisdiction it will see to it that the misconduct is stopped, paying not the slightest heed to the position or power of the corporation, the union or the individual, but only to one vital fact -that is, the question whether or not the conduct of the individual or aggregate of and honors of political office. It is beindividuals is in accordance with the law of the land.

Every man must be guaranteed his liberty and his right to do as he likes with his property or his labor, so long as he does not infringe the rights of others. No man is above the law and no man is below it; nor do we ask any man's permission.when we require him to obey it. Obedience to the law is demanded as a right, not asked as a favor.

We have cause as a nation to be thankful for the steps that have been so successfully taken to put these principles into effect. The progress has been by evolution, not by Cuban government, orderly, stable, unrevolution. Nothing radical has been done; the action has been both moderate and secure, a régime free from the menace resolute. Therefore the work will stand. of marauding bands composed of the There shall be no backward step.

For Vice-President.

His Excellency the Hon. CURTIS GUILD, Jr., is too much a master of the proprieties to show himself unduly eager for the glistening gold brick dangled before him by the Roosevelt-Taft touters He admits, however, in effect, that a Massachusetts name would look well on the Republican national ticket; and he would be willing to permit the use of his name thereon.

Were i not for the beggarly practical question of delegates we might "heartily indorse" a proposition for a Bay State candidate for Vice-President. Massachusetts, recalling JOHN ADAMS, EL-BRIDGE GERRY and HENRY WILSON, has perhaps no right to feel that in these days it is a long time between Massachusetts Vice-Presidents. Yet she has a statesman who deserves to be approved. if only his State would back him up with delegates. We refer to the Hon. JOHN DAVIS LONG, who might have been nominated for Vice-President in 1900 and wasn't. More's the pity. As the man who was Mr. ROOSEVELT'S official superior for a brief but bitter season, and yet lived, Mr. Long must always be regarded by his countrymen with sympathy and respect. Considering the traditional though not invariable relations between the President and the Vice-President, there would be an eminent propriety in the nomination of Mr. Long for the latter post, for which, moreover, his talents fit him. He is what our long friend from Indiana, with all his merits thick upon him, will never be, a learned parliamentarian and model presiding officer.

The Transfer of Cuba's Government.

Moved thereto by the President's declaration that "under no circumstances" would the American intervention in Cuba be continued beyond the first day of February, 1909, THE SUN has made such inquiry as was possible regarding the wisdom of the policy thus announced. The weight of competent opinion leads to a conclusion that the execution of that policy would be followed almost inevitably by a period of disturbance in the island, by a third | British embassy on Connecticut avenue intervention and probably by permanent American control. None of these conditions is desirable for either Cuba or the

United States.

The United States is pledged to the establishment of a stable government in Cuba unless the Cubans by their own acts shall make such a government urday last the Hon. Therus Wilherte impossible. The time which shall be covered in the attainment of this end is nowhere specified. The Tel-er amendment to the joint resolution of April 20, and deadfalls of the city. In his opinion 1898, has been generally accepted as the 20,000 or 30,000 loafers in Washington the time standard. It declared the purpose of the original intervention to be only the pacification of the island, and seserted the determination "to leave the of their revenues, affect to believe that government and control of the island to the evil can be suppressed by adding one ·its people" when its pacification should have been accomplished. The force of force. And so it goes. this pledge depends upon the meaning given to the term "pacification." Our interpretation of it has been sentimental rather than practical. According to the dictionary, peace is a condition with a range from "freedom from disturbance or agitation" to "heavenly rest." Measured assembles there all the drones, the hoboes by necessity for the use of force to maintain public order, Cuba was pacified when the Treaty of Paris was proclaimed, three in the warm and comfortable homes years before the inauguration of President Palma. Measu ed by the chances of political stability and an enduring government Cuba's pacification is not yet | erly executed, our neighbors would be accomplished, and another twelvementh | within sight of the end of their troubles.

will still find the island so far from the It is a city peculiarly adapted to the part of Admiral Convense's report he THE KAISER'S POLICY IN EUROPE. necessary moral peace that American withdrawal would be almost to a certainty only temporary. Should we once again be obliged to intervene in Cuba, the only conceivable result would be years of military occupation.

The only sound policy and wise course

lies along what may be called a pro-

gressive transfer of authority. A new

stalled, there should be a halt until they

are tried out. When their success has

been demonstrated, and not until then,

whether the demonstration required one

year or five years, the second step,

provincial elections, should be taken.

The result of these should likewise

have time for trial and for reasonable

proof of stability. With municipalities

and provinces administered with reasona-

ble success and due assurance of sta-

bility, a third step, the organization of a

national Congress, might be taken. The

last step, the election of a President

and the transfer of all authority, should

only be taken when by general recogni-

tion and consent the probability of

revolt or political disorder in the

island was no greater than it is in this

country. Only under such conditions

will it be possible to say with safety

that the island is pacified and that its

More than even that: Our investiga-

ion of the matter leads to a definite con-

viction that this policy, as opposed to that

declared by President ROOSEVELT, has

the approval of a large majority of the

people of the island. The opposition to

it comes mainly from a few scheming and

while seeking only the furtherance of

their personal ambitions and the satis-

faction of their greed for the emoluments

yond question that the great majority

of the Cuban people wish to live under

a government of their own. Stronger

than that wish, notwithstanding the ex-

perience of 1906, is their desire for an

orderly government under which they

may live in peace and carry on their

various industries without disturbance

or molestation. Between the immediate

establishment of a Cuban government,

with social, political and economic un-

certainty, with menace of armed revolt

and pillage, and the progressive transfer

above outlined leading steadily toward

such a government as they desire, a

der which life would be safe and property

henchmen of disgruntled politicians, we

have reason to believe that the choice

would be overwhelmingly in favor of

The Cubans are not a turbulent race.

They are a peaceable and domestic

people. They fought, as men should

fight, against the political tyranny of

Spain. They protested, as men should

protest, against the political iniquities

of their own government. The mis-

fortune of the country is the readiness

with which a few disaffected men can

assemble bands of irresponsible fol-

lowers and create serious disorder. A

such movements were discouraged and

A Vagrant Law for Washington?

months, and the general public became

excited. Now we hear through the

would be restrained if his burning words

could carry to the soul of Congress.

Most of the local newspapers, thoughtful

or two or three hundred to the police

But to those who view the situation

from afar it seems that what Washing-

ton needs is a vagrant law, properly en-

forced, such as they have in various

parts of the country. Everybody in

Washington understands that the winter

and the cranks within a thousand miles.

If instead of entertaining these gentry

provided for them by organized "char-

for a vagrant law and see that it is prop-

possibility of their recurrence

destruction.

its share.

the latter.

selfish politicians parading as "patriots"

final transference is fully justified.

electoral law has been provided and a idlers. Why doesn't Washington cut out the alleys and courts, suppress the rich and There is no reason why municipal elections should not be held on the poor proprietors, and try the vagrant date fixed in the electoral law, July 1. law-properly constructed and rigidly The new city governments being inenforced?

"courts" and "alleys" are in every neigh-

borhood, built or rather left there by

rich owners who reap harvests from

their wretched tenants and collect their

percentage upon crime. This vagrant

law would depopulate their now paying

property but it would rid Washington

of the drones, the sneak thieves and the

housing of

predatory loafers. The

The German Ambassador's State-

ment. We reproduce elsewhere this morning a statement, given out by Baron SPECK von Sternburg, of Germany's position with regard to the two questions as to which that Power has recently been represented as a mischief maker and in some degree as a menace to the peace

of Europe. We have first a positive denial that the German Government is a party to any secret treaty favorable to Austrian interests in the Balkan peninsula as against the interests of Russia; secondly, a promise that Germany will adhere faithfully to the programme of reform in Macedonia representing the collective intentions of all concerned; thirdly, an explanation that instead of seeking to embroil Austria with Russia over the proposed new railroad to Salonica, Germany is laboring hopefully to relieve the tension between those two Powers, and that her solicitude for the extension of the railway system in the Balkans is solely in behalf of the general progress

of civilization. Equally interesting are the Ambassador's protestations regarding his Government's good faith and honorable policy with regard to Holland and Belgium. He reminds the public that Germany attached special importance to the sovereign participation of Holland in the recent agreement guaranteeing the territorial integrity of Holland, and that Holland gratefully recognized the attitude of the Kaiser in that respect; and that, so far as Belgium is concerned, former treaties afford such complete proof of Germany's unselfish and peaceful policy that the Belgians themselves entertain not the slightest suspicion of sinister intentions at Berlin threatening their territorial integrity.

Observers of the present situation both in the Balkans and in the North Sea will find in the German Ambassador's remarks a gratifying indication of the sensitive desire of his Government to possess the good opinion of the people of the United States.

Admiral Converse's Report

When Rear Admiral GEORGE A. CON-VERSE speaks of "amateur critics" in his report to the Secretary of the Navy, prepared by direction of President Roose-VELT, does he include the writers for service journals who have ventured to point out blunders in the construction of American warships? Mr. HENRY REUTERDAHL, whose article "The Needs of Our Navy" in McClure's Magazine provoked the order of the President, is of course an amateur, and he recognized himself as such, for he wrote concerning few years of government under which the charges he made:

I do not ask that my word; be accepted for them if need be summarily suppressed would t is unnecessary that it should be. The various vastly reduce the probability and the points which are stated here have all been pub-Withdrawal from Cuba before our been embodied in Presidential messages."

work is done and properly done will be As it is a fact that writers employed worse than a mistake. To transfer by technical journals anticipated Mr. prematurely the government of the REUTERDAHL's charges, they must share sland is to disregard a national obligaany disparagement that attaches to the tion to which we are repeatedly pledged. term amateur critic; at the same time it It is to leave unfinished a work to the is probable-and such no doubt is the completion of which we are bound, and expectation of the President-that Rear it may be to leave Cuba in the hands of Admiral Converse's report will be rethose who would again work its political garded by the American people as an official reply to Mr. REUTERDAHL, who allows that he is an amateur. The most serious charge made by him was that The whole country is interested in its "of all our battleships not one shows its national capital-we refer to the city of main armor belt six inches above the Washington. The country at large pays water when fully equipped and ready for sea." When fully loaded practically half the taxes, which is a just arrangement since the Federal Government the whole of the ship's water line belt is owns a little more than half the property under water, declared Mr. REUTERDAHL. and needs the same amount of police If true this condition would expose the protection and the rest of it. How many battleship to the danger of being sunk of the force are now assigned to duty by a shell striking her at or just above at the White House we cannot say, nor | the water line. How does Admiral Conis it important that we should. We out-VERSE deal with this allegation? Not by siders who help to pay the taxes may be an emphatic denial, as some uncomproquite sure that, under the existing dis- mising champions of bureau construcpensation at least, the Government gets tion have done. It is unfortunately a fact, he says, that "the actual draught Latterly there has been an increasing of men-of-war at completion is fredemonstration of pocketbook snatching, quently greater than that for which they frequently accompanied by violence all were designed," because "changes of a over town. Not only the unconsidered military character" have to be made. purlieus but the most populous and fash-Thus in ships of the Virginia and Conionable districts are included. Last Frinecticut classes alterations in the turret and battery foundation designs caused day night at 7:30 o'clock a well known lady was knocked down in front of the

a decrease in the height of the main armor belt above the line of flotation. and robbed. This in the very heart of But Admiral Converse submits that the the residence neighborhood. That made difference was only five or six inches. twenty-one cases within the last few Rather disingenuously, we think, he argues his case by saying that the American battleship would not go into action medium of the Washington newspapers loaded with stores and coal like the Rusthat something must be done. On Satsian ships at Tsushima, but would take pattern after the Japanese fleet, which Sims of Tennessee upreared a proud stripped for battle light. The argument though froglike form and prated loud is disingenuous because the Japanese and long about the rumshops, the dives were to fight within easy reach of their own naval base.

Admiral CONVERSE also refers to the sometime trimming of a ship by the shifting of coal and other dead weight, so that the after end of the main belt is submerged or awash, to explain the error of the amateur critic in assuming that the same is the case all along the line of flotation. Then, too, he suggests that "persons unfamiliar with battleships may take the top of the painted (usually red) water line 'boot topping' as representing the upper limit of armor Here is a plain issue between belt." Admiral Converse and the correspondent of the service journal, the Navy, who saw the fleet sail from Hampton Roads and reported that "the Connecticut's belt was submerged to the extent of a full foot," and that the belt of all the ity" the city of Washington were to ask other battleships was submerged. The Navy speaks of "the stretch of red paint above the belt being what is known in

the fleet as 'boot topping." In this

seems to evade and fence with the direct charge and maintain that as our battleships would go into action lightened there would be enough margin of main

belt above the water line.

On the subject of height of freeboard, Mr. REUTERDAHL having charged that the freeboard of many of our ships was not high enough to permit the use of some of their batteries in a heavy sea, Admiral Converse seems to have the best of the controversy. He prints a table showing that the height of freeboard on the American battleships compares well with that of British ships of corresponding date, and moreover he scores when he points out that the Japanese in their latest ships, with the lessons of the war with Russia to guide them, "have not raised their gun positions nor their freeboard." Admiral Con-VERSE does not squarely meet the issue raised by the charge that "the open turrets of our navy have been protested against since they were first built, at least fifteen years ago." But he sternly calls the "amateur critic" to account for representing that "nothing was done to remedy the defect complained of." If Mr. REUTERDAHL was meant, it should be said for him that he noted the introduction of the automatic shutter, after several fatal explosions and repeated protests, and concludes that "after fifteen years" of protest the two newest ships in our navy, the Dreadnoughts, will have their turrets proper protected from the magazine by the adoption of the European design. Admiral Con-VERSE'S defence of the vertical turret shaft reads like a plea of confession and avoidance, and Mr. REUTERDAHL seems to have the best of the argument. The fact that the vertical turret is to be dis-

carded tells its own story. Admiral Converse concedes that the absence of automobile torpedoes from some o our battleships, as charged, is a "disadvantage," but he calls attention to the fact that all our large vessels designed since the inc ease of the range of torpedoes now carry them. This leaves open the question of whether it was ever wise to discard them. There can be no doubt, we think, as the Admiral says, that those engaged in the construction of our battleships "have acted honestly and patriotically and only with the desire to produce the best ship possible." But has not the composite bureau system been a law unto itself, slow to heed criticism and obdurate—we will not say in the wrong-in perpetuating precedent? Mr. REUTERDAHL and the critics of service journals may not have made sufficient allowance for changes in designs made necessary by experience and the test of naval warfare, but we may be sure the charges published would not have been noticed if they had been

reorganization of the system. An unreasonable person, by name JAMES E. MURRAY, hailing from Orange, has been subjected to the respectful and considerate treatment which New York policemen use when it is necessary to close a street or to divert traffic from its ordinary course. He said in the police court that he did not know that he was trespassing on the police lines and that he did not like the manner in which he was stopped. That he was able to be taken to court and was not sent to a hospital or the Morgue proves conclus'vely that the police handled him with exceptional gentleness and forbore to use him as residents of this town are pleased to be used under similar circumstances. Mr. MURRAY has declared his intention of complaining to the Police Commissioner. Some New Yorkers in his place would write a letter of thanks and suggest promotion

entirely without foundation, and they

will not have been in vain if they lead to

for the policeman in the case. Our British cousins entertain variegated notions as to the character of American diplomacy, for when the London press i. not condemning it as of the aboriginal sort it bewails its Machiavellian qualities. The "unscrupulous Roor," says the London Standard, "played with BRYCE as a cat plays with a mouse." If Ambassador BRYCE has not been clawed to a finish it should be suggested to him to divert Secretary Roof with gifts of colored glass beads and calico. Firewater, once potent in such dealings, is no longer acceptable at the State Depart-

An eight day Republican national convention, the Chicago despatches prophesy. Is the Boss to lecture in person?

Nine years I have been in public life, -The Grand oung Man of Indiana at Wabush. But he doesn't talk his age.

The Hon. SAMUEL WALKER MCCALL has a kindly heart, no matter how severe and old fashioned his views of the Constitution may be. He has reported favorably a bill to move Greenough's statue of George WASHINGTON from the east plaza of the Capitol to the inside of the Smithsonian Institution. The Greenough Washington has been under the weather for a long time. That all too scanty toga doesn't protect sufficiently in rigorous winters and hail-We do not speak irreverently of the work of Mr. GREENOUGH, but it certainly does produce ribaldry in the un-

The Jury System and the Thaw Case. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: Your explana-

learned visitor and pity in the sympathetic

chilly.

tion of "The Present Legal Status of the Thaw Case" is clear and theoretically satisfying, but the fact remains that a very thin wall separates Harry K. Thaw from freedom. Have you nothing to say of the absurd and inadequate system of trying such cases that can result in a verdict logically indefensible? Does not the result argue that there is a vital defect in that system for which the remedy is learly indicated? How long will it be before it

The truth is that our jury system is a lottery to a degree dangerous to the fair name of the com-ALEXANDER DOTLE. NEW YORK, February 16.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If justice has not been tricked, it is difficult to understand how any hope can be entertained of the release of Thaw. Was the plea of insanity but a legal sophism to cheat the law where one danger was to be averted, only to be repudiated where another is to be evaded? Finally, is the administration of the law Do we live in a community where human rights are so little understood that a man may be shot

lown without a chance for his life and the murlerer go unwhipped of justice? NEW YORK, February 16.

lèse majesteddy!

A New Way of Doing It. In Germany, before they dare great William's name to say.

They must remember all the laws about lese majesté. But we discuss our Theodore in language free and vention will go entirely uninstructed.

Foreigner's Note Book - Many of the delegates ready; For he, dear man, himself commits the crime to the convention are so illiterate that they can

Important Statement by the German Ambassador to the United States. Washington, February 17.-The attitude of the German Government concerning both the Balkan question and the North Sea

given out by Baron Speck von Sternburg: "Telegrams from London and St. Petersburg recently published in the American papers make it appear as if Germany were creating trouble in Europe by refusing to adhere to the rules of reform in Macedonia laid down by the 'Muerzsteger programme. They even hint at the existence of a secret treaty between Germany, Austria and

question is thus set forth in a statement

Turkey. "These statements are absolutely false and unfounded. No such treaty has ever been concluded. On the contrary, Germany will give her full assistance to any steps taken by Austria and Russia in accordance with the 'Muerzsteger programme.' The German Government further agrees on principle-with the judicial reform favored by England, and has directed her representative at Constantinople to sign a new collective note to the Sublime Porte With regard to the railway concessions on the Balkan, a question started exclusively by the Austrian Government, Germany us doing her best to relieve the tension ariser through this question between Austria and Russia, and has done so with every promis of success. Germany considers the extension of the railway system on the Balkan a most important factor in aiding the progress of civilization in parts of the globe where it is especially needed.

"The treaty guaranteeing the territorial ntegrity of Norway has likewise given rise to similar publications totally misrepresent-ing the attitude of Germany with regard to the North Sea.

"In suggesting an agreement on this subin suggesting an agreement of this subject Germany laid special importance on the participation of Holland in this agreement, as the idea of an annexation of Holland by Germany has also recently been spread by a portion of the western European press. The Dutch Government has taken part in the participations from the pean press. The Dutch Government has taken part in the negotiations from the very beginning and has expressed its high appreciation with regard to the German

As far as Belgium is concerned, the intentions of Germany in the North Sea give no rise to suspicion whatever in that coun Former treaties of integrity are suf ent proof of Germany's clear and peaceful policy with regard to Belgium. in this country not the slightest suspicion is noticeable as to the attitude of Germany in the North Sea question."

THE DAUNTLESS GAEL.

He Whoops Exultantly and Defles the Anglo-Saxons.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-SIT: An Anglo onslaught in your columns on Gaelic names. In this we have a fine example of the Anglo-Saxon Now, the reason Anglo-Saxons do not admire Gaelic names is because the Gaels are not rich (thanks to their benevolent governors!). Just watch an Anglo-Saxon comport himself before any sort of an old name with money back of it a name for him is merely a symbol of roast beef and

plum pudding, so to say.

We are told in the letter referred to that "the Irish (whether they like it or not) are part and parcel of the great Anglo-Saxon race." The Irist deny it. They will all die before they become Anglo-Saxons. For over 800 years the attempt has been making to Anglo-Saxonize them, but it is no nearer success to day that it was the day

And by the way, will your enthusiastic correspond ent please inform us if any other people in any part of the world has permitted itself to be Anglo community-we really should be spared a repetitio of such a stale old loke. AMERICAN GARL

A Young Woman's Views TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Suppose we granted, which personally I do not, that the Irish copie are part and parcel of the Anglo-Saxon ing to spell their names in a way to suit themselves The Angio Saxon is so admittedly a composit any more than the French element or the German or any other. It is a little funny, and like the grac a name like Sullivan commenting atrabiliously on the "Mc" which, permit me to inform him, has a coning. I am a student at the Normal College and I know what I am saying. It means "son of. would hear of himself as Mr. Soolivan; and as for pronouncing a very sacred name otherwise than as the common English way is, in our German class the professor once had us say it as if it were led "Yazo's," and our Latin professor did ex actly the same: so what harm is there if some country folk in Ireland or Scotland have linguistic

When Shamus O'Sheel gets his diploma, if it is in the time honored Latin, how will "James" be spelled? Will the authorities rightly forbid the absurd ANNA REGAN. NEW YORK, February 17.

peculiarities of their own? Think of that, Mr

Assailing a Fond Southern Memory.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Recently THE SUN for the furnishing of corn bread by the New York hotels, as it is such a favorite Southern dish. He rightly says, he sure to get a good cook, fear corn bread for the Southerner is a myth like the meals mother used to cook. There are lots of cooked things that require a special appetite to seem as palatable as formerly.

These Southern hotels often furnish corn bread; but I notice the experienced traveller avoids it. for it is generally coarse and heavy and fit only for laborers or to keep a darky's teeth white. Out-side of the best private houses. North as well as South, corn bread is a delusion and a snare, unpal atable, gritty and often sodden.

I sometimes think its heaviness accounts for the

laziness of the poor whites and ignorant negroes otherner who longs for it has either a mem ory of the best family cooking or of a time when he was at physical work or camping out, when the appetite is supreme. At few Southern hotels is it CORN BREAD.

Deficiencies in the Firemen's Equipment.

GREENVILLE, S. C., February 14.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: With the schoes of the Slocum horror still in hearing, is it not appropriate to inquire who in the Fire Dep heart. Indoors the impression may be less ment is responsible for sending a brave man to his death in a smoke filled cellar for want of equipment of a smoke helmet and miner's lamp? With these Deputy Chief Kruger could have made his investigation in perfect safety and without discomfort. Abroad, smoke helmets have been in comm use for years, and in the United States they will be found even in out of the way refrigerating plants (where ammonia is used) if not in fire departs Apparatus of this sort was on public view here some time ago at the exhibition of safety appliances in the Natural History Museum. The stantly recurring spectacle of gallant firemen be ing removed limp from smoke filled cellars is disgraceful in this time and city. Less heroism and more technical ability is apparently needed in the New York Fire Department, NEW YORK, February 16,

Father and Child in Classic Art.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Rare indeed is a father and child in classic art—except in family groups. Is there not one by Moroni at Boston? His Widower With Girl and Boy" at Dublin-recently reproduced in the Burlington Magazine-may be recalled. Did Rubens ever paint himself with his sons? Veronese should have done it-as his Supper at Emmaus" proves. The nearest thing -a masterpiece, indeed, but not quite what a Proud Daddy" asks for-that I can think of offhand as great-by a master seidom great-is Ghirlandalo's "Old Man and Boy" in the Louvre. Your correspondent's query is worth answering and would not be scorned at the New York Public

HOSELLE PARK, N. J., February 15.

acither read nor write.

A Traveller's Impressions. American-Some of the delegates to the conTHE "CONSPIRACY."

a of a Once Pervent Wershipper of

the Helmsman of Things. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In spite of his reassurances that the country is safe and his implied belief in the existence of very rich men who are not criminals. I fail to under-stand how President Roosevelt can have any hope for the future of a republic in which, according to his own statements, a conspiracy of malefactors of great wealth has attained such proportions that every writer and speaker who dares to criticise his policies or administration is consciously or unco sciously acting as a representative of pred-

Though once an ardent admirer of President Roosevelt, I am aware of having bot spoken and written disrespectfully of his attitude and administration during the past year or two, and in doing so I have never once been consciously a representative o predatory wealth: but how am I to prove of even to know that I am not an unconscious representative of that kind of wealth? Doubtless I have been more or less influenced by what I have read: but whatever I have read adverse to the Administration must, according to the President's postulate, have written by a conscious or unconscious repre-sentative of predatory wealth. If then I must take the President at his word I cannot share his optimism. In the grasp of such a con spiracy as he depicts the country must inevitably go down.

But where am I to go for reassurance enlightenment? If I am told that there no such conspiracy or that the President is suffering from megalomania, how can I be sure that my informant is not a conscious us representative of predatory wealth? If I turn to my inner conscio for an expression of opinion, there again am confronted with the horrible suspicion that predatory wealth may have robbed me of the capacity for independent thinking.

The President has certainly confounded his critics and made his country look like thirty cents. He seems tacitly to admit the existence of honesty and fair play, but apparently it exists only among those who believe in him, and those who believe in him must necessarily believe in this horrible conspiracy, vet how can anybody believe in this horrible conspiracy and still believe that the country

NEW YORK, February 17.

atory wealth.

How History Repeats Itself.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In yes terday's issue of THE SUN is the following quotation ascribed to Abraham Lincoln: Were I President I should desire the legislation of the country to rest with Congress, uninfluence y the Executive in its origin or progress and undisturbed by the veto, except in clear cases.

In earlier years I read Gibbon's "Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire." After twentyfive years of professional activity I am again reading that great work, and note with grave apprehensions how "history repeats itself. In commenting on the course of Augustus after the battle of Actium the author savs: Whilst he restered the dignity he destroyed the free constitution are irrevocably loss when th legislative power is nominated by the executive. BUFFALO, February 15. B. FRANK DAKE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: If the oming political campaign is to be one of ns much argument will be spared. Take Jack Cade ("Henry VI.," II.; iv., 7):

My mouth shall be the parliament of England Then Voltaire said of Jean-Jacques: He would be willing to be hanged, in order have his name appear in the death sentence.

And what a pity Dean Swift died before the present era, in view of this testimony: As universal a practice as lying is, and as eas a one as it seems, I do not remember to have hear three good lies in all my conversation, even from those who were most celebrated in that faculty.

LESLIE CHASE. CARLISLE, Pa., February 15.

The Reluctant Minority of Knickerbocker Trust Depositors.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Is i ot possible to make clear to the non-assent ing depositors of the Knickerbocker Trust Company the fact that resumption means payment in full, but liquidation does not?

It seems barbarously cruel that the majority should be made to suffer for the falla-NEW YORK, February 17.

The Canadian Senate Not Likely to Be Made

Elective. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Concerning Sir Wilfrid Laurier's proposal to reform the Ca nadian Senate by making it elective instead o appointive, the idea of equal representation of the several provinces would hardly remedy its inconsistency with the idea of a responsible Britis Government. For whereas the House of Lords is unlimited in its possible extension, the Senate both in its present constitution and in the change proposed is and would be a fixed number, no affected in its power of obstruction by a disso-lution and general election, however favorable

might be to the Ministry. The present Liberal Government when it came nto power encountered a Conservative Senate and most factious obstruction of its measures Time and death having changed the Senate fro a Conservative to a Liberal body, it is hardly credi ble to one familiar with the partisan habit in Can ada that a Ministry in power will relinquish any of its possible advantages, and it is safe to pre dict that the "Grits" will not be an exception i

this instance.

A reform of the Canadian Senate which placed some particular responsibility upon its members who obstruct the measures of a Ministry, as for instance an obligation to resign their seats upor a dissolution, and a popular support of a Ministry in a general election, might bring the Canadian Federal system into some accord with the British system of responsibility. This is not the only respect in which the Canadians are not British but we must not therefore delude ourselves with e idea that they are Americans, for true loyalty one of their crowning virtues.

NEW YORK, February 16. JOSEPH T. TOMEINS.

Announcement by a Cartographer. From a German Publisher's Advertisement.

An our publication arrivedet a communication cards of the globe 1 Yards by 1 foot 8 inches grad these were have alle the needfulnesse booket weighty establishment citys, montains, one modern stadement of distance to 100 sea miles about an points. It is there with possible all the liking distance

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publish arrivedet works the inlands, that the cor unications to accommodate thunce are it possible also the countrys marking of the citys optioner in the concernt speech.

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THE PUBLICATION.

The Method.

"He loves me" or "He loves me not." The question great to settle The maiden takes a daisy fair Perhaps her mind is set at rest

And is no longer hazy It's tough upon the dalsy The flower of prosperity

The President has taken And, ruthless, pulled each petal off With fortitude unshaker With all his wielded power. But all beholders will agree it's tough upon the flower.

MCLANDSURGE WILSON

PRINCETON AND CORNELL.

sion of Pootball Relations Between

the Two Universities. To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: When Cornell-Princeton football began Old Nas-sau was "big" in the game; the Ithaca coilege was comparatively new at it. When a few years ago the "Big Red Team" defeated When a the Tiger in his own jungle the annual contest ceased to be a practice event for the older college's elevens, and for five or six years now the game has been one of the choice

its in the gridiron season's bill of fare. A three year agreement calling for a game at Princeton, one at New York and the third at Ithaca terminated last fall with Cornell's 8-5 victory on the up-State field. When the managers got together to arrange for the future, Princeton's representative arbitrarily rejected the proposition of a home and home contract, insisting that the game must be played either here in New York or at Prince ton. The Cornellians objected to the Pole Grounds scheme, and stood up—quite prop-erly—for play on college grounds only. To

erly--for play on college grounds only. To Princeton's Irresistible force Cornell presented the front of an immovable body--galthere will be no match in 1908.

The interesting feature of the controversy lies in the apparent failure of the managersto represent undergraduate sentiment in the two colleges. Editorial utterances in the Cornell Dully Sun and the Princetonian make the perfectly plain that both student bedies eagerly desire the continuance unbroken of the cordial relations of the pass and that, in the best spirit of college rivalry, both favor the home and home arrangement.

The responsibility appears fairly to rest with Princeton. If her manager has represented her fairly and faithfully her attitude is deplorably unsportsmanlike, It's as far

The responsibility appears fairly to rest with Princeton. If her manager has represented her fairly and faithfully her attitude is deplorably unsportsmanlike, It's as far from Ithaca to Princeton as from Princeton to Ithaca, and if Princeton has to prepare for Yale, Cornell has to get ready for Pennsylvania. If, on the other hand, Princeton's representatives have misrepresented her it is "up to" the college to repudiate their action and to insist upon a readjustment. The power that the college electors give to their representative the college electors give to their representative the college electors can take away when the representation is obstinately inadequate.

As the affair stands now the Princeton feetball manager lays his college fairly open to the charge of being either afraid of Cornell or anxious to make the game a gladiatorial affair to draw the dollars from a "sporting" crowd on alien grounds at the cost of the sacrifice of the host and guest spirit that makes a meeting on the college grounds worth while.

It's up to Princeton!

Graduate.

Old Line Democracy.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Late developments in our politics have not only made it timely but obligatory upon Old Line Democrats to declare themselves a little further. So evident has become the determination to commit suicide of the party which bears and is proud to dishonor the name we claim that we feel it our duty to decline to aid in the act, even by silence. Speaking as one of a large class, and believing express their views, allow me to say to our Republican friends: Take a sheet of white paper, write on it any platform you please. put upon it any candidate you may select tha in any way approaches your ideal or who is not barred by constitutional tradition, present it to us and we will support it with our eyes shut, provided Bryan be nominated on eyes shut, provided Bryan the other side.

A large number of my brethren went down to political death with Palmer and Bucknes in 1896 rather than sail under the pirate flag, and we are not afraid to abide yet a while by the position then taken, or until the light shall again dawn in our politics. But it is painful to us to realize that it is no longer true that "the Democracy is atrong in oppo-sition," as we used once to hear. That it has abdicated that most important constitu tional function, or rather shown its utter unfitness for it, is a source of pain and regret

for the sake of our country and our people It should be clearly understood that the position here outlined is ours only in the event that the Republicans take a position somewhere near that bespoken for them by ex-Governor Frank S. Black in his speech before the Home Market Club of Boston on Thursday February 13. What we shall do should earl party choose its Militant Mouth to represent its whole body in the next election is, however, more than we like to say; prophecy is dangerous; watching and prayer are out of

OLD LINE DEMOCRAT. BROOKLYN, February 16.

Far Eastern Notes.

It was not until 1881 that ground was first turned for railways in the Federated Malay States. Now there are 489 miles in operation and more than 278 mifes projected or being surveyed. In 1906 the sum of \$2,707,269 was expended for new construcand survey, while the roads in operation earned \$4.774.124 gross and \$1,782.362 net, says the Far

Eastern Review for December The public debt of the Federated Malay States is defined by one little but eloquens word of three letters, nil. But more than that; the surplus assets on January 1, 1907, were \$36,500,000, an increase of \$9,000,000 in the year. In 1906 the revenue was \$19,000,000. In the same year 1,480 miles of metalled cart roads were constructed, an increase of 210 miles over the previous year. The railways cost \$41,500,000, every dollar of which was paid for our

Some idea of the great work done and nearing completion in harbor improvements at Marila is shown in the following: Area of fill, 191.4 acres; area of harbor dredged to date, 384.7 acres; materia used for harbor fill and moats, 7,940,500 yards west breakwater, 3,000 feet long (two-thirds constructed by the Spanish Government), requiring 259,000 tons of riprap, 10,230 cubic yards of masonry and 4.825 yards of concrete coping. The south breakwater, 3,000 feet long, used up 485,000 tons of The bulkheads and retaining walls of the first harbor fill required 228,000 tons of riprap and 5,000 lineal feet of pile and timber bulkhand. Two steel wharves, one 110 by 550 feet, and the other ,70 by 600 feet, a forty ton crane, a lighthouse, steel sheds and sunken railroad tracks, new Lunets

driveway, grand plaza and boulevards, sites for Elks Club, Army and Navy Club and tourist hotel.
The sugar industry of the island of Negros, Phil impine Islands, produced 300,000 tons in 1893. then no progress has been made owing to ten years war, famine, locusts, cattle diseases and ad verse legislation. These have put Philippine sugar at a disadvantage in the markets of the world. Negros Island has vast areas of land suitable for hemp, coffee, rubber, sugar, corn, tobacco, rice cocoanuts. There is coal of excellent quality, but

no fields have been developed. Oil is found in the nearby island of Cebu. And there is a quantity of hardwood timber. The railway soon to be con structed will help things in Negros very mater tally, says the Manila Daily Bull Japan's mineral output in 1966, according to the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, was of the valof \$48,930,700, an increase of 38 per cent, over that of the previous year. The chief productions in

order as named were coal, copper, petroleum, gold Japan's rallway expenditure in the next (March 31 fiscal year's budget has been reduced to \$15,350.00 for new construction and \$14,000,000 for improve ments, a total of \$27,850,000.

The Chinese Government is encouraging the manufacture of steel rails and railway supplies. Rails aiready made in Chinese mills are satisfactor; Low cost of labor and adjacent coal fields are the great advantage. The demand in China will be

enormous for several years.

The Japanese Government places the estimates of revenue from telegraphs at \$19,000,000 and from rallways at \$22,500,000 in the next fiscal year's The water power system of the Tokio Electric

Idght Company has been completed at a cost of \$4,000,000. The capacity of the plant is 4,000 horse

power, which will be increased to 17,000 horse Japs on Texas Rice Lands.

From the Des Moines Register and Leader.
"I have leased my rice farm in Texas to a Jap. remarked T. M. Walker. "There is some local feeling because the Japs are taking the rice lands thereabout. But I can see no reason for refusing to accept his offer, inasmuch as the Japs can rais as much rice with the same cost as dur people can. They understand rice culture as no American does. This particular Jap is young and rich and comes with ample resources to do business. I understand that as rapidly as they can secure leases or can purchase the Japa are taking the

Transmitted Snake Bite. From the Pall Mall Gasette.

An extraordinary case of snake poisoning is re ported from a country hospital in Victoria. An old man was brought in in a comatose state and ahowing all the symptoms of having been bitten by a venomous anake. But on investigation it was found he had been bitten by a dog, which died almost immediately afterward from snake bite. Medical treatment was successful, and the man gradually recovered from the snake poison which